



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

February 27, 2006

**LUND FAMILY CENTER CAPITAL CAMPAIGN
REACHES THE \$1.5 MILLION MARK WITH U.S. SENATOR JEFFORDS SUPPORT**

Media Contact:

Rachel Carter, Paul Kaza Associates
(802) 863-5956
rcarter@paulkaza.com

Lund Family Center Contact:

Kitty Bartlett, Development Director
802-864-7467
kittyb@lundfamilycenter.org

BURLINGTON, VT – Lund Family Center announced at a press conference today a \$360,000 federal appropriation set forth by U.S. Senator Jim Jeffords for the Lund Family Center Capital Campaign. This earmark now places the \$3.7 million campaign over the \$1.5 million mark. Senator Jeffords also pointed to the need for broad Vermont community support and partnerships as resources dwindle.

“It has been my absolute pleasure to secure this federal grant for the Lund Family Center to help them kick off their capital campaign,” commented Senator Jeffords today. “I do not know of a better way for the federal government to spend money than by supporting programs such as these.”

The campaign is to improve the quality of residential and educational space and add expanded room to facilitate program growth particularly in residential treatment and childcare for pregnant and parenting young women. Lund Family Center has been operating in the same space structure as they were in the 1960’s and since that time the Center has grown and evolved to meet increasing community needs and demands. In the past ten years alone, 12 new programs have been introduced to serve double the number of people. The space has remained virtually the same making program growth and renovations inevitable.

-more-

At the press conference today, Senator Jeffords began by noting his personal family connection to Lund Family Center. Jeffrey Small, Chair of Lund Family Center's Board of Trustees and Lisa Ventriss, Co-Chair of the Capital Campaign provided information on the history of Lund Family Center and the campaign's progress. Barbara Rachelson, Executive Director of Lund Family Center and two Lund alumni/participants offered their insight into Lund's programs and later offered interviews to the media. Barbara Rachelson and residents treated community members to a tour of the current facility and outlined anticipated improvements including:

- Expanded and improved residential space for residents. The expansion will make it possible to offer residential treatment to an additional 12 young women and their children. The current facility operates at a maximum capacity of 18 women and their children. The waiting list is currently at eleven.
- Redesigned living space for residents, clustering living space into suites with bedrooms, a common living area, and a shared bathroom. At present eighteen women and their 8-10 children share one bathtub, three showers, and four toilets. They use a 10x15 square foot counselor's office as an evening community room.
- Expanded and improved childcare space specifically designed to facilitate early childhood development. The current childcare program operates at maximum capacity of 28. This expansion will allow a capacity of 40 children.
- Expanded and enhanced library, classroom, and computer lab space for continued education of pregnant and parenting young women who are residents or day students.
- An exam room for the high level of onsite nursing and medical care. Currently all nursing care, pregnancy counseling, childbirth and child health classes, and confidential counseling are all conducted in an administrative office.
- Additional enhancements to technology services, parking, and Lund Family Center grounds.

Lund Family Center has been a valuable resource for children and families for 115 years. Lund focuses its efforts on three goals: strengthening families, reducing child abuse and neglect, and helping to create new families through adoption. These goals support Lund's mission to help children thrive by serving families with children; pregnant or parenting teens and young adults; and adoptive families.

Lund Family Center serves more than 4,000 individuals annually with the assistance of 104 employees and a \$4.6 million budget. They are located at 76 Glen Road in Burlington, Vermont and on the web at www.lundfamilycenter.org.

###